

**From:** Brian Jackson  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/21/01 10:10am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom it May Concern,

I am personally DUMBFOUNDED that the Dept. of Justice has agreed to a settlement in the Microsoft anti-trust proceedings that essentially ENCOURAGES Microsoft to further extend it's dominance in the desktop operating system/applications software market.

The currently proposed settlement, which would require Microsoft to donate \$500 million to disadvantaged schools, leaves the door wide open for the company to extend it's dominance into one of the few markets where actual competition stills exists: the Education market.

In what way does this portion of the proposed settlement punish Microsoft for their anti-competitive practices? By further eroding the slim market share held by their only real competitor in the desktop operating system/applications market, namely, Apple Computer?

It is my personal opinion as an IT professional that the entire settlement is extremely weak in it's scope, and is little more than a slap on the wrist to the continually arrogant and aggressive management of the Microsoft Corporation. However, I find the portion that requires the donation to the Education market particularly offensive and short-sighted. I think the DOJ should rethink this whole thing, and do the right thing for everyone invloved. In my opinion, that would be the breakup of the Microsoft Corporation into 2 separate companies, one that produces the Windows Operating System, and one that produces Application software (Microsoft Office, Internet Explorer, etc.). Anything less is damaging to both the consumer and businesses that compete with Microsoft in selling computer software.

Please consider these very important factors before committing to any settlement deal with Microsoft!

Sincerely,

Brian Jackson  
Network Administrator

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